

*How slow to believe
all that the prophets
have spoken!*



323 E. 1st St.

Fairmont, MN 56031

Sunday Worship: 9:30am

Sunday School and Bible Class: 11:00am

www.shepherdofthelakes.net

Pastor Jason Zuehlke

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PastorZuehlke@outlook.com

Third Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2020

Welcome to Shepherd of the Lakes

We're here to shepherd Christ's flock and seek the lost sheep by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with all. Come, let us worship!

For Your Convenience...

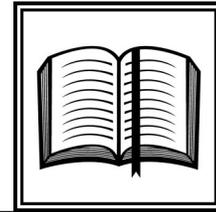
A room for any parents with children in need of a quiet place is located in the back corner of the sanctuary. Restrooms are located on the lower level. Please ask if you have any further questions or concerns.

Prayer before worship

Heavenly Father, as I worship you today, curb my wandering thoughts. Speak to my heart. Encourage me with your Word, that my faith is strengthened, my confidence and hope renewed, and I am re-committed to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' name, amen.



DIVINE SERVICE I



OPENING HYMN: CW 141.....*A the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

PLEASE STAND

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

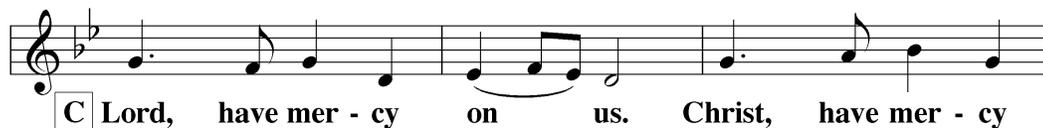
C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY—*Kyrie*



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

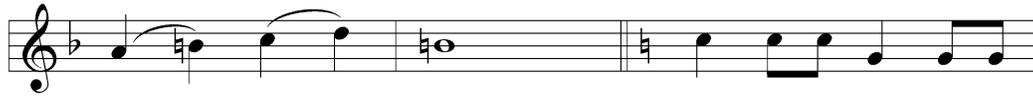
C: Amen.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -



ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the



glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

FIRST LESSON: Acts 24:10-21

¹⁰ When the governor motioned for him to speak, Paul replied: "I know that for a number of years you have been a judge over this nation; so I gladly make my defense. ¹¹ You can easily verify that no more than twelve days ago I went up to Jerusalem to worship. ¹² My accusers did not find me arguing with anyone at the temple, or stirring up a crowd in the synagogues or anywhere else in the city. ¹³ And they cannot prove to you the charges they are now making against me. ¹⁴ However, I admit that I worship the God of our ancestors as a follower of the Way, which they call a sect. I believe everything that is in accordance with the Law and that is written in the Prophets, ¹⁵ and I have the same hope in God as these men themselves have, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked. ¹⁶ So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man.

¹⁷ "After an absence of several years, I came to Jerusalem to bring my people gifts for the poor and to present offerings. ¹⁸ I was ceremonially clean when they found me in the temple courts doing this. There was no crowd with me, nor was I involved in any disturbance. ¹⁹ But there are some Jews from the province of Asia, who ought to be here before you and bring charges if they have anything against me. ²⁰ Or these who are here should state what crime they found in me when I stood before the Sanhedrin— ²¹ unless it was this one thing I shouted as I stood in their presence: 'It is concerning the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you today.'"

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 67 (*printed on p. 91 In the front part of your hymnal*)

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 1:17-21

¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

VERSE OF THE DAY:

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us. Alleluia. (Luke 24:32 cf. NIV)

THE GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

PLEASE STAND

M: The Gospel according to Luke chapter 24.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷ He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

¹⁹ "What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

²⁵ He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther.

²⁹ But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.

³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”

³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴ and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” ³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 279*O Word of God Incarnate*

SERMON—Luke 24:13-35

PLEASE STAND

SERMON RESPONSE—*Create in Me*

Cre - ate in me a
pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -
in me. Do not cast me a - way from your
pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from
me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

PLEASE BE SEATED

OFFERING

Offerings can be mailed to our church office at **517 Tilden Street, Fairmont, MN 56031** or made on our website under the “Donate” tab at the top of the homepage.

To our visitors: The members of Shepherd of the Lakes have joined together to spread God’s message both in this community and around the world.. Our offering is not a debt we owe God, but a way that we return to God a portion of what he generously gave to us. Our motivation, then, is not obligation, but love for God. As our guest, please do not feel obligated to contribute. We’re happy that you’re with us to hear about God’s love for you.

PLEASE STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

HYMN: CW 541.....*Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide*

PLEASE STAND

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ’s holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN: CW 325 *How Blest Are They Who Hear*



CENTRAL AFRICA MEDICAL MISSION – MALAWI April 2020

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7

Worry. Anxiety. Panic. Dismay. Fear. Uncertainty. Despair. We can keep listing words about all the feelings that are going around right now during this unprecedented time in the world’s history. There are enough to fill this letter. In times of uncertainty, our human-ness makes it easy to forget that God is in control and that He knows what He is doing and rather to start coming up with all of these ideas on what we need to do to “fix” this situation. I read recently “God didn’t ask for help when He created the world, why would He need it now?” That really gave us a very clear picture of who is in control.

As of Saturday, 28 March 2020, at 9:15am (Central time), there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 (or CoronaVirus) in Malawi and there are 22 in Zambia – most of which are confined to Lusaka, which is more than 100 km from our clinic in Mwanetsi. Even though there is limited exposure, the Central Africa Medical Mission is still forced to make decisions about the clinics and our staff. In Zambia, the government has done a good job of educating their citizens about the spread of the virus and the preventative measures that Zambians can take now. They have been supporting us out at our clinic – including getting us some extra supplies, providing a statistician to help keep them updated on what is happening there and making sure that their Environmental Health Technician is out in the villages educating them, as well. Our clinical director, Jackson Kalekwa, and our Administrator, Alisad Banda, have been closely following the instructions of the government and have been requiring hand washing of every patient as they come into the clinic and limiting the number of people who can be in the clinic at one time. CAMM will continue to monitor the situation in Zambia to keep our staff and our patients as protected as possible during this pandemic.

The Malawi government, on the other hand hasn’t done nearly as much work in preparing their citizens as they have in Zambia. Although there are no confirmed cases at this point, the Malawi government knows that the best preventative measure will be to try to keep the virus from coming into the country. They will be restricting travel - on April 1 airports will be closed to international flights, border crossings will also close and there will be limits to travel on buses, taxis, trains and boats. There have been radio spots informing people about the disease but to date the Government run rural health centers have received little or no training. Our staff with the LMC has been teaching about COVID-19 to our patients at each clinic site. We know that although the government has given some social distancing recommendations (such as staying a meter away from another person and no gatherings over 100 people), it is nearly impossible to follow them. For instance, we regularly have over 200 people at clinic on any given day right now due to it being the rainy season. We are keenly aware that as we operate a mobile clinic and travel out to 4 villages from the largest city of Malawi, Lilongwe, we are in a precarious position of being carriers from one of these places to another. The government has shut down its own mobile clinics. All of this could cause us to be overwhelmed with what to do.

Instead, we reach our hands out to God. We ask that He continue to watch over Malawi and if it is His will, that Malawi continue to be protected against COVID-19. We ask that if the country does see the virus, that He limit the number of deaths. We thank Him that Zambia and Malawi are about to come upon the maize harvest and we ask for a plentiful harvest so that the both the Zambians and the Malawians have food to eat. We ask that He lead us to make the best decisions for our staff and patients when it comes to the operations of the clinic. We thank Him for His grace and mercy and for sending His Son to save us. Finally, we ask for the peace of mind, heart and spirit that in Him, we are always safe. Won’t you please pray with us?

“The LORD will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.” Psalm 121: 7-8

In Christ,

CAMM Stateside Committee

Gary Evans - CAMM Field Director

News and Notes for April 26, 2020

Thank you!

Pastor offers his heartfelt thanks to all who have been patient during this time of trial and also those who have been helping with many things to help our services continue online and in many other ways. He couldn't do it without everyone's help! And to see God's Church continue to serve even now expresses so strongly the love of Christ you all have through the gospel! God bless you all and may that love continue to always grow!

Holy Communion

A good number of members came for Holy Communion on Friday and Saturday. Thank you for asking for that wonderful opportunity! It was terrific to see many longing for it again! At the moment, Pastor is planning on having Communion set up in the same fashion every other week. Right now it is matching the same weeks we would have communion, and he shall plan on keeping it like that. Please keep an eye out for another online survey concerning how we practice the Lord's Supper in our current situation.

Should you ever wish to set up a private communion session, Pastor can make arrangements providing the same precautions are taken.

Building Update

Here are some of the latest updates from Joy Johnson on our building project:

- sheetrock will be done week of April 27
- taping/tecturing possible week os May 4
- painting week of May 11 or 18.
- partial footings have been poured and waiting for the inspector's okay to continue on.

